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AFL Urges Economic Sanctions Against Red China

Union Show Dazzles Thousands From Mid-West

Council Asks More Aid of UN Allies, Stronger Formosa, No Asian War

Chicago.—Economic sanctions against Communist China to hasten the end of the Korean war were urged by the AFL Executive Council.

The Council reaffirmed its opposition to a seat in the U.N. for Red China and called for other nations to withdraw recognition from this imperialist aggressor.

More aid from our U.N. allies in Korea, strengthening of Formosa by military and economic aid and use of 30,000 Chinese Nationalist troops were advocated.

The Council said the U. S. should not, however, commit itself to a war on the Continent of Asia. Here is the text of its statement:

"Our country has been in the midst of an historic debate over its foreign policy. That our nation can engage in such a debate during a bitter and costly war (Korea), is a great tribute to the vitality of American democracy. This debate has already brought much clarification. It has enlarged the area of agreement, particularly, in regard to our course in Asia over which the sharpest disputes had arisen. We are confident that, in the final settlement of the issues, the democratic ideals, humanitarian interests, and world responsibilities of the American people will rise above party and personality. In the present critical hour, this is the first prerequisite for the adoption of a sound and just bi-partisan foreign policy, especially in the Far East.

A way must be found to attain this bi-partisanship and thus to insure the continuation of the century-old friendship between the American and Chinese people. In this spirit, we propose that such a bi-partisan foreign policy should include the following evaluation and practical measures:

1. The war in Korea is a war planned, plotted and prepared by the imperialist ruling class of Russia as an organic part of its drive to conquer all Asia and, thereby, hasten Soviet domination of the entire world. At this stage of military operations, the North Korean puppets and the Chinese Communists hordes are serving as the catapaws and cannon fodder for imperialist Russia. The leading power in the camp of international democracy, America has assumed the heaviest burdens and responsibilities in this bitter conflict. But we must redouble our efforts to secure greater contributions and more active participation in this military struggle by other members of the United Nations.

2. In line with the U.N. General Assembly decision branding the Peiping regime as an aggressor not only against the Republic of Korea but also against the United Nations as a whole our country should set the pace in rallying the other free peoples in applying not only an arms embargo but also rigid economic sanctions against Communist China so as to reduce its military potential and thereby hasten the end of hostilities on the Korean peninsula.

3. In view of the global nature of the crisis precipitated by Russian aggression and the urgent need for strengthening the political, economic, and military forces of the free nations in Europe, Asia, and elsewhere, the present objective of the U.N. in the Korean conflict should be to halt and defeat this Soviet aggression, to restore the territorial integrity and protect the sovereignty of the Republic of Korea as founded and recognized by the U.N., and to aid its people in achieving reconstruction and security against any future aggression.

4. In view of the offer made by the Chinese National government to provide 30,000 troops for the U.N. forces in Korea, the recently appointed U. S. Military Mission to retrain the Nationalist forces on Formosa should give priority to retraining and re-equipping these troops with the object of making them available to the Supreme Commander of the U.N. as military requirements necessitate.

5. Our country should continue to give military aid to the Chinese National government based on Formosa with a view of preventing its seizure by the Communists. The U. S. should also continue to give economic aid to Formosa—either as a continuation of the present ECA or as a part of the Point Four Program. The stabilization of the economy of Formosa, the development of its economic resources, the raising of its living standards, and the active advancement of democratic reforms on this island should be systematically furthered in order that it may serve as an inspiring contrast to mainland China groaning under the iron heel of Communist terror and Russian exploitation.

6. Under no circustances or pretext whatsoever should our government in any way recognize or approve the admission of Comunist China into the U.N. Furthermore, our government should do all in its power to have other governments desist from recognizing it or seeking its admission into the U.N.

7. The U. S. should not commit itself to a war on the continent of Asia. We stress this though we heartily sympathize with the aspirations of the National government to speed the liberation of the Chinese mainland from the traitorous and terrorist Communist dictatorship and its masters in Moscow. In this connection, our government should, in cooperation with the National government of China, make a careful survey of the possibilities of guerilla warfar on the mainland with a view of giving forces resisting Communist tyranny and Russian domination appropriate and practical aid.

8. The peace and security of the world demand a free and democratic, and independent China. Our government should vigorously reaffirm its policy of unstinting support for restoring to the Chinese people their full national independence and territorial integrity.

It was in this spirit that Theodore Roosevelt and John Hay offered the historic policy of the Open Door to prevent the threatening partition of China at the close of the 19th century. In a similar spirit, Woodrow Wilson and Robert Lansing turned down Japan's Twenty-One Demands made on China during World War I. In the same spirit, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Cordell Hull made strenuous and successful efforts to have China accepted as a member of the Big Five in the U.N. Today, more than ever before it is imperative for our country to insure the continuity of its traditional policy of friendship for the Chinese people through the attainment of a genuinely bi-partisan foreign policy in the Far East.

Leaders Praise AFL Union Show

Chicago.—AFL President William Green said the AFL Union Industries Show "outclassed all of the others—and the others were good."

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany said the individual exhibits were much better. "The building trades unions really went into it this time and it was a very good show," he said.

"A whale of a success," said President Reuben G. Soderstrom of the Illinois Federation of Labor.

"I don't think it ever was better," said AFL Vice President Daniel J. Tobin whose Teamsters Union had one of the biggest exhibits in place.

Governor Stevenson called it fascinating. A lesson in "what our industry and workers are doing."

Ornburn Day Observed at Union Show; Pace Visits Exhibit Armed Forces Day

Chicago.—The AFL Union Industries Show marked its fourth day as "L. M. Ornburn Day" in honor of L. M. "Dick" Ornburn, who conceived the huge labor-management exhibition while secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department.

Mr. Ornburn directed and laid the groundwork for all the shows preceding this one, held in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Philadelphia.

Secretary of the Defense Department Frank Pace joined the list of nationally-known visitors to the show, inspecting the exhibits on Armed Forces Day, May 19.

Raymond F. Leheney, successor to Mr. Ornburn, led the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag on I Am an American Day, May 20.

Opening day was designated William Green Day in honor of the AFL president. Each of the other days was specially named.

Council Offers Housing Program; Urges Bipartisanship in Far East

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council adopted a 4-point program needed immediately to relieve the critical housing shortage and offered an affirmative policy for this nation to pursuge in Far Eastern affairs.

Ratification of these policy statements concluded the regular meeting of the council, members of which joined in the formal opening of the 6th AFL Union Industries Show in Soldier Field.

The council picked Montreal, Canada, for its August meeting, the last before the annual convention in San Francisco in September.

On housing, the council called for passage of a defense housing bill to provide homes at rents workers can afford to pay in the defense areas of the country; sufficient funds to construct the 135,000 low cost public housing units authorized by the act of 1949, and prompt relaxation of credit regulations to permit lower down payments on lower priced homes.

The council approved United States efforts to negotiate a treaty of peace with Japan and pledged a strong delegation to work for world peace at the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions meeting in Milan, Italy, July 4-14.

Noting that the country is engaged in a historic debate over foreign policy, the council said "a way must be found to attain bipartisanship to insure the continuation of the century-old friendship between American and Chinese people."

The council laid down an 8-point program urging more aid from UN allies in the war in Korea, arms embargo on Communist China, restoration of Korea and aid in its reconstruction, use of Chinese Nationalist troops, strengthening of Formosa, continued non-recognition of Communist China, no war on the Asian continent, and support for establishment of a free and democratic China.

Green, Meany Call It Greatest Ever

Chicago.—The greatest labor-management show on earth ran up a new attendance record in its first four days and proved socko entertainment to thousands of mid-westerners who jammed the Soldier Field exhibit area to view the AFL Union Industries Show, May 18-26.

Raymond F. Leheney, executive secretary Union Label Trades Department and show director, said that if the crowds continued to pour in as on the first four days total attendance would hit the million mark, doubling the previous record set in 1950 in Philadelphia.

Thousands of AFL members and their friends and fellow citizens from Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa joined the big crowds of Chicagoans. All were dazzled by the finest collection of labor-management exhibits ever assembled.

One whole section of the show was devoted to the Building Trades Unions and their employers—building, installing and demonstrating union-made materials and union services in home and building construction.

Bakers, butchers, laundry workers, potters, upholsterers exhibited their skills and training while thousands watched. Hundreds of prizes were given away.

Important public officials, motion picture starlets and the Armed Forces joined in the ceremonies opening and coincident with the show. Distinguished visitors included Secretary of Defense Frank Pace, Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, Mayor Martin H. Kennelly of Chicago.

Paramount Studios lent its "Golden Circle" group of future starlets to the glamorous opening.

Eighty-five AFL unions and their employers exhibited more than $16 million worth of goods and services in over 500 booths.

OPEN INDUSTRIES SHOW.—Chicago.—Lee Gaye (left) and Sally O'Neil (right), dressed like the majorette symbol of the AFL Union Industries Show, hold white ribbon which AFL President William Green cut to open the big show in Soldier Field. Next to Mr. Green (l. to r.), Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois; President William Lee of Chicago Federation of Labor; AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany; AFL Vice President Herman Winter and Daniel J. Tobin and President William Schnitzler of AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers.

Red Cross President Stresses Need For Voluntary Blood Donations

New York.—In the presence of two wounded veterans whose lives were saved in Korea by gifts of blood, E. Roland Harriman, president of the American National Red Cross, received a copy of "Blood—Your Gift Of Life," the 17-millionth pamphlet published by the Public Affairs Committee, a non-profit, educational organization which is celebrating its 15th anniversary this month.

The veterans, both of whom are still undergoing treatment at St. Albans Naval Hospital, were Corp. Salvatore Tornabene, 25, of 31 Snedeker Ave., Brooklyn, who was wounded Aug. 7 in the Kum River battle, and Sgt. Joseph J. Bettin, 26, of Elmhurst, Long Island, who was wounded Aug. 13 during a banzai charge south of Taegu. Both men are World War II veterans. They were serving with the 24th Division when wounded.

In lauding the Public Affairs Committee for publishing its anniversary pamphlet, Mr. Harriman, who wrote the foreword to it, said:

"Every hour of every day is critical to some of the nation's ill and injured. Thousands may die not only on the battlefield but right here at home if blood is not available. This important medicine is a major weapon in the treatment of the injured. Moreover, there is no substitute for fresh, whole blood. It must be a voluntary gift from the healthy to the ill and injured."

"The new pamphlet," Mr. Harriman said, "is particularly important at this time when all blood resources of the nation are being marshalled to meet greatly increased needs."

Describing the Red Cross blood program, which is detailed in the 32-page booklet, Mr. Harriman said:

"The development of this program is one of the most important jobs ever undertaken by the Red Cross. Actually, it is a three-way expansion: First to meet the needs of the armed forces for whole blood and for reserve supplies of dried plasma; then to meet civil defense needs for large quantities of blood products for stockpiling; and finally to meet the growing need of the civilian population for blood in the treatment of injury and disease."

The new pamphlet tells how blood donated through the American Red Cross and cooperating blood banks is being used to save the lives of our combat wounded in Korea and also how significant this healthgiving medicine is to every American. Civil defense needs are outlined in the section describing plans for building a stockpile of blood plasma as protection against a military attack on this country.

The new 20c pamphlet is the 175th published by the Public Affairs Committee of 22 East 38th St., New York City. Other pamphlets are on family problems, health, education and social studies.

Detroit Musicians Support Symphony

Detroit.—The AFL Federation of Musicians was the first labor organization to donate $10,000 to support of the newly reorganized Detroit Symphony Orchestra, which will give a 22-weeks season next fall and winter.

John B. Ford, Jr., industrialist leading the fund campaign for $10,000 donations, praised Edward Werner, president Detroit Musicians, for his part in helping to raise the money to revive the symphony.

Check List For Unions

Champaign-Urbana, Ill.—Did you go to your last union meeting? Did it start promptly? Did it last too long? Are you glad you went?

Your answers to these questions may tell you two things:

1. How good a union man you are.
2. How good your union meetings are.

Dr. Richard Murphy of the University of Illinois has developed two sets of questions to check union men and meetings. With the first set you can rate your union meetings. The second will help you judge yourself as a union member.

Dr. Murphy developed the two questionnaires for the University's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. They have been used in educational work with the International Association of Machinists. Copies may be obtained by writing to him.

The first set, "Was It A Good Union Meeting?" has 20 questions. Some examples are: Did the meeting start on time? Was an agenda followed? Were officers' and committee reports ready and in good order?

The second rating sheet, "How Good a Union Member Am I?" has 35 questions. Some of them are: Do I regard my dues as a sound investment? Do I attend meetings? Am I on time? Do I complain about the union at meetings rather than to outsiders?

You can help your union by using these questionnaires, Dr. Murphy says. You can find out why more members don't attend meetings, and how to make your meetings run better. The educational committee, he says, might give the tests at a regular meeting, then collect and tabulate the scores. Then it could recommend improvements at the next meeting.

You can also tell how to improve yourself as a union member, Dr. Murphy states.

EUGENE JONES HONORED

New York.—Eugene Kinckle Jones, retired National Urban League executive, was feted for his 40 years distinguished and fruitful leadership of the League movement. Recognized as an elder statesman in race relations, Mr. Jones began his career in social work with a report on the "Negro Community of New York." It was he who arranged the first meeting of Negro leaders with Samuel Gompers and the AFL in 1913, and guided League endorsement of organized labor.

Photo RCA, 800 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D. C.

REPRESENTED AFL WHITE COLLAR WORKERS.—Brussels, Belgium. AFL spokesmen at the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions meeting on raising living standards for the world's white collar workers were these AFL spokesmen, l. to r., Paul R. Hutchings, president Office Employes; Irving Kuenzli, secretary-treasurer Teachers; Irving Brown, AFL representative for Europe; Arnold Zander, president State, County and Municipal Workers, and Harry Steeper, treasurer, Musicians.

BEN-GURION PRESENTS GIFT.—Washington.—Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel presents candelabra to President Truman on his May 8 birthday. The Prime Minister, early leader of Histadrut, Israel's labor movement, was given ticker-tape greeting in New York later. He discussed peace and economic development in the Middle East. AFL unions have generously supported new Israeli nation which just celebrated its 3d birthday.

GREETS N. J.

Newark, N. J.—Israel's Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, in a communication to the New Jersey State Federation of Labor, hailed American labor's support of the new Jewish state.

The communication was sent to Louis P. Marciante, president New Jersey State AFL, by Mr. Ben-Gurion's liaison officer, Harry Zinder, in acknowledgment of a message of fraternal good will sent the Israeli Prime Minister when he arrived in Washington last week. Ben-Gurion has long been an outstanding labor leader in Palestine.

Rutz Extends AFL Greeting in Berlin

Berlin, Germany.—Henry Rutz, overseas representative of AFL, at a rally of West Berlin Trade Unionists at the Platz der Republik on May Day, extended greetings from the AFL and free workers everywhere to slave laborers behind the Iron Curtain. He said:

"At this celebration on May 1, 1951, I bring you, brave, free men and women of Berlin, greetings from 8 million American workers organized in the American Federation of Labor, and wish to extend to you our admiration of your courage and steadfastness.

"I know you who assembled here on this free island of Berlin will join me in sending a message of hope. This message is directed to workers in Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and to all peoples behind the Iron Curtain who are longing for freedom, and in particular to those millions, the price of whose struggle for freedom is enslavement in Russian work camps.

"I say to those millions: You are not forgotten. The American labor movement cooperates with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in preparing plans for your liberation.

"We are working for a day when all nations, East and West, will be able to celebrate May Day as the only great world holiday, as a holiday of freedom."

GEORGE J. RICHARDSON

Washington. — Secretary - treasurer AFL International Association of Fire Fighters appointed by President Truman as United Labor representative on the Civil Defense Advisory Board for 3-year term.

PUBLISH KOREA STORY

New York.—The United Nations has just published the second part of its story of the events in Korea. Called "A Unified Chronology," the 18-page pamphlet is a detailed summary of the debates and actions taken by the United Nations in regard to Korea.

2½ BILLION PEOPLE

New York.—It is calculated that the world's population today is close to 2,500,000,000—500,000,000 more persons than in 1920. These figures have recently been published in the second edition of the Demographic Year Book printed by the United Nations' statistical bureau.

It's Work or Jail In Soviet Russia

Washington.—The "boss" in the Soviet Union can send a worker to jail for 20 days for refusing to go to another job. No court action is required and no court appeal is permitted.

This is but one example of Soviet labor's loss of freedom cited in the second of 2 articles on the Elements of Soviet Labor Law appearing in the April 1951 Monthly Labor Review, publication of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Both articles were written by Dr. Vladimir Gsovski, foreign law specialist for the Library of Congress. The first appeared in the March issue.

Even children of 12 years of age can be drafted for attendance at factory and trade schools which impose military-like discipline.

Since the suppression of private enterprise in the Soviet Union, the article points out, labor has lost all freedom on the job. The Standard Rules of Internal Labor Organization of 1941 stress that "every violation of labor discipline shall entail either a disciplinary penalty or prosecution in court."

A 1938 act, the article reveals, "was directed against tardiness, leaving work before the scheduled time, undue prolonging of lunch time, and loitering on the job. Those who committed such infractions were subject to warning or to transfer to lower grade jobs." An official interpretation of the act in 1939 states "a single tardiness exceeding 20 minutes should result in immediate dismissal." Managers, the article reports, are subject to dismissal and penal prosecution for any failures to initiate "prescribed penalties."

Leaving one's place of employment without permission, the article states, can incur imprisonment of from 2 to 4 months—in a defense industry, the penalty would be imprisonment up to 8 years.

A 1940 edict allows government department heads to transfer certain personnel, and failure to obey transfer orders is punishable as "unauthorized leaving of the job." In some industries, "bosses" are given the power "to impose penal banishment up to 20 days in their own discretion without a court action."

Hits Turnover in U. S. Federal Jobs

Washington.—Criticism voiced by AFL union leaders of the government's poor handling of its personnel was echoed by the bipartisan Citizens Committee in the Hoover Report.

AFL Vice President William C. Doherty, president National Association Letter Carriers, and other government employe union officers have told Congress repeatedly that the delay in granting wage increases and the constant attacks on government workers' standards were resulting in a tragic, wasteful turnover of employes.

The Citizens' Committee said that 36 percent of the government's employes will quit their jobs next year in what amounts to a "public catastrophe." It called the situation "shocking" and said no private business could operate with such a turnover. It blamed bureaucratic red tape.

Big Business Gets $25 Million Daily

Washington.—The League Reporter, published by the AFL Labor's League for Political Education, said that big business received tax benefits at the rate of $25 million a day during April 1951.

This is only one of the huge handouts received constantly by business and industry from the U. S. treasury. This one was given under the Defense Production Administration—run by Big Business employes which handles the granting of tax amortizations on new production facilities "needed" for defense.

The League Reporter said:

"From April 9 to April 26 the Defense Production Administration (DPA) gave Congressmen tax handouts on new plants that will be worth $433,800,000 when they are completed.

"The government has been granting its tax handout state for big business since December at a-billion-dollar-a-month clip. As of April 26 a total of $4,797,827,410 in new plants had been okayed for the tax benefits.

"Until April 26 the tax handout program had been under Defense Production Administrator William Harrison, president of International Telephone & Telegraph. After Harrison quit April 25 to go back to IT&T, Edwin Gibson, executive vice president of General Foods, took it over. He is expected to be every bit as good to Big Business as was Harrison.

"Tax benefits let big companies write off the cost of their expansion programs in 5, instead of 15 to 20 years. That means their tax bills will be cut during the next five years—as your taxes are increased."

AFL Charters Insurance Agents As New International Union

Chicago.—The nation's insurance agents now have their own exclusive international union chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

The AFL Executive Council in session here granted a charter May 15 to the Insurance Agents International Union.

The new union grew out of the National Federation of Insurance Agents Council, Victor Building, 724 Ninth St, N.W., Washington, D. C.

The new union has contracts with 21 insurance companies, including the nation's largest, and represents 22,000 agents. It is in the midst of an intensive organizing drive among John Hancock agents.

The charter was granted as the climax to a charter convention held here. Until the AFL acted, agents have been organized by various unions. NFIAC President George E. Bates called for the unity of all insurance agents under the AFL banner. He said:

"During the past years, the mighty insurance companies have succeeded in keeping the agents divided into separate unions. In this manner they have been able to pit one group of agents against another so that the resources of the insurance agents have been used mainly to fight each other instead of being used in a concerted manner to fight the powerful insurance companies. This has been especially true during the past two critical years. Insurance agents through united action can defeat the companies' purposes and fully protect their own interests.

"The NFIAC-AFL represents the overwhelming number of organized agents of all insurance companies nationally. We believe the new International Union will provide the only means through which the unity of the agents for effective collective bargaining and the protection for themselves and their families can be achieved."

WINNERS FROM FIVE STATES.—Washington.—Winners in the essay contest sponsored by the President's Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week were greeted by Washington Officials when they came here to receive their awards. L. to r., Mary Ann Owen, Bridgeton, N. J., 1st prize, $1,000; Patricia Mahfouz, Burkeville, Tex., 3d, $300; George Kosciusko Weaver, Louisburg, N. C., 2d, $400; Sylvia Doyle, Colorado Springs, Colo., 4th, $200; Margaret Ann Dilfer, Lonaconing, Md., 5th, $100.

Stronger Price Curbs Urged; Chicago Welcomes Union Show

Executive Council Asks Congress Act on Federal Pay

(Special to AFL News Service)

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council urged Congress to provide "stronger enforcement machinery for price controls" and to tighten price and rent curbs for the protection of all Americans.

It branded as "a selfish and dangerous move" the drive by big business to end emergency economic controls by failing to extend and strengthen the Defense Production Act.

The council said it will submit proposals for amendments to the Defense Production Act which will have as the central and indispensable keynote—"the defense program must be geared to the basic principle of equality of sacrifice."

In another important statement, the council asked Congress to "give immediate attention to federal pay legislation." It hit administration tactics for recommending a 6.9 percent increase for 2,250,000 government workers after having testified that a pay increase of 21 percent would be necessary to compensate for the lag in government wages behind the cost of living between 1939 and 1951.

"Congress should reject ill-conceived attempts to whittle down the size of pay measures affecting federal personnel," the council said. "Inadequate salaries have been responsible for demoralizing government employes than any other factor.

"The demoralization is reflected in the wholesale exodus of trained and experienced workers, who are attracted to better paying jobs in private industry."

The citizens committee for the Hoover report announced last week that the government faces a turnover of 36 percent in its personnel in the next year, "a shocking public catastrophe."

The council pledged full AFL support to Sailors Union of the Pacific to resist any invasion of its jurisdiction by the Communist-led Longshoremen's and the Warehousemen's Union.

The administrative committee of Labor's League for Political Education called for an immediate start on an intensive registration of voters for the 1952 election and planned to broaden and strengthen the financial structure of the league.

The council pushed through a busy week of work by participation in the formal opening of the AFL Union Industries Show at Soldier Field.

CO-OPS

Chicago.—Appointment of two new workers in the national expansion of cooperative housing projects by Larry Voorhis, executive secretary of both the Coopera-League of the U.S.A. and the Cooperative Health Federation of America.

Hayes Beall, training director for Central Cooperative Wholesale, Superior, Wis., has been appointed as a field secretary for the Cooperative Health Federation and as a member of the league staff.

George Schechter, on a temporary leave of absence from the staff of Amalgamated Housing Corp., New York City, will survey the needs of cooperative housing projects being set up under Section 213 of the Federal Housing Administration work in advisory capacity with these projects on urgent problems of organization and development.

PRESIDENT HAILS TOP TRUCK DRIVERS.—Washington.—President Truman gives his double handshake to the trucking industry's Driver-of-the-Year, John Castner (right), 34, steward Local 162 Teamsters Union, Portland, Ore., and runner-up, George Neff (left), 32, steward Local 144 Teamsters Union, Terre Haute, Ind. They were cited by American Trucking Association for no-accident records.

A. J. HAYES

Washington.—President AFL International Association of Machinists, United Labor representative in Department of Defense, serving as special assistant on manpower problems to Assistant Secretary of Defense Anna Rosenberg.

AFL President William Green Is Honored on Opening Day

(Special to AFL News Service)

Chicago.—AFL President William Green cut the traditional ribbon opening the greatest of AFL Union Industries Shows at Soldier Field.

Opening day of the show was designated "William Green Day" in honor of the AFL president.

Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois and Mayor Martin H. Kennelly of Chicago joined with AFL leaders in dedicating the show as the world's greatest demonstration of harmony between free labor and management.

Television and motion picture newsreels recorded the ceremonies for the millions of AFL members to see in their homes and movie houses.

More than $16 million worth of exhibits were on display and in operation in more than 13 miles of booths under the covered stands of Soldier Field and on the concrete apron outdoors at the south end of Soldier Field.

Eighty-five AFL unions and their employers set up 400 exhibits in more than 500 booths. AFL craftsmen demonstrated their skills in most of the exhibits and there was constant entertainment, music and free gifts to hold the crowd.

More than 2 million tickets were distributed for the show.

Governor Stevenson, Mayor Kennelly and the mayors of more than 30 other Illinois cities proclaimed union Industries Show Week in the state and their respective cities.

The show was managed by Raymond F. Leheney, executive director AFL Union Industries Trade department, under the guidance and sponsorship of the department's executive board consisting of:

President Matthew Woll, Photo Engravers; Vice President John J. Mara, Boot and Shoe Workers; Joseph P. McCurdy, United Garment Workers; James M. Duffy, Operative Potters; Herman Winter, Bakery and Confectionery Workers, and Richard F. Walsh, Stage Employes.

Hold on to your U. S. Savings bonds—buy more.

Spence Promises Just Defense Act

Washington.—Chairman Brent Spence of the House Banking and Currency Committee told the Kentucky United Labor Committee that he hopes for a Defense Production Act that will be "just to labor."

The government's defense mobilization and economic stabilization chiefs have told Mr. Spence's committee that amendments recommended by President Truman to tighten price and rent controls are necessary in the law when it is extended beyond next June 30.

Some business and farm groups have called for the death of the law. United Labor wants some amendments stronger and different from those recommended by Mr. Truman.

The United Labor Policy Committee condemned the Defense Production Act of 1950 because it fails to control prices while freezing wages rigidly and gagging all the restrictions of the Taft-Hartley law.

Mr. Spence made his remark at a luncheon attended by Sens. Earle C. Clements and Thomas R. Underwood and members of the Kentucky delegation in the House, along with six members of the Kentucky United Labor Committee.

"If we are going to win this war, we're going to win by production, and labor is going to play a great part," Mr. Spence said.

"There's a bitter fight over this bill. I think it is absolutely essential that we continue the Defense Production Act. I hope we can report a bill that will meet the approval of the American people and will be just to labor."

He said he has invited AFL President William Green and CIO President Philip Murray to testify on the amendments to the bill submitted by President Truman. The present law will expire June 30, 1951.

Al Whitehouse, district chairman United Steelworkers, president Kentucky CIO and chairman Kentucky United Labor Policy Committee, and Edward H. Weyler, secretary-treasurer Kentucky AFL and Kentucky United Labor Committee, member Brotherhood of Carpenters, outlined for the Kentucky congressmen the shortcomings of the 1950 Defense Production Act and changes which United Labor desires.

Mr. Weyler presented petitions for the changes, signed by almost 20,000 Kentuckians, and addressed to President Truman, to Senator Clements to forward to the White House.

Mr. Whitehouse said that among the major changes United Labor wants in the new act are these:

Elimination of the provisions tying price and wage freeze together; imposition of dollars and cents ceiling prices; strike out the ban on grade labeling; separate handling of railway wage stabilization cases; adequate disputes settling machinery; elimination of requirement that procedures of Taft-Hartley Act must apply; elimination of pensions and welfare funds from wage definition.

Both Mr. Whitehouse and Mr. Weyler emphasized that labor is asking for a bill that will be "to the best interests of the country and our people."

Members of the Kentucky United Labor Committee who attended were: Edward H. Weyler, Martin Lacy, chairman Louisville & Nashville AFL Shop Craft Federation; Rex May, Jr., chairman Kentucky State Council International Association of Machinists, AFL; Al Whitehouse, Fred Ross, secretary Kentucky CIO; Henry Seibert, CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

This was the first state-wide united labor delegation to visit congressmen in the interest of a stronger Defense Production Act, adequate housing program, fair tax law and an equal voice for labor in the defense mobilization set-up.

Council Backs SUP In Fight Against Bridges Threat

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council pledged to the Sailors Union of the Pacific of the Seafarers International Union "every protection and assistance within its authority and power" to resist the threat of invasion of that unions jurisdiction by Harry Bridges' Communist - tainted Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

The Council said in a statement:

The Sailors Union of the Pacific of the Seafarers International Union, since its inception and for many years past, has enjoyed the right and jurisdiction over work in vessels operating out of the Pacific Coast and Alaskan ports.

It has come to the attention of the Executive Council of the AFL that the Communist-dominated Longshoremen's and Warehouse Workers Union, under leadership of the Australian Communist Harry Bridges, is again making an effort to weaken and destroy the relationship now existing between the Seafarers International Union and the waterfront employes and shipowners by disregarding and transgressing the right and jurisdiction of the Seafarers International Union.

The American Federation of Labor is gravely concerned in these developments and to avoid such jurisdictional violence, to avoid discord in the present industrial relations existing in the shipping industry on the Pacific Coast, including Alaska, and to protect the rights and jurisdiction of the Seafarers International Union, the American Federation of Labor will extend to that organization every protection and assistance within its authority and power and will call upon our affiliates to render like encouragement and support.

CALLS FOR LETTERS

Philadelphia.—Vice President John J. Smith of the AFL American Federation of Government Employes called on union members in the Philadelphia area to begin a "letters-to-Congress" campaign in support of 17 percent pay increases for postal and civil service federal workers.

Shane Is Canada's Fraternal Delegate

Ottawa, Canada.—Bernard Shane, vice president AFL International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, was chosen fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada to the AFL 70th convention in San Francisco next Sept. 17.

Mr. Shane was nominated by the executive council of the Trades and Labor Congress because the annual Canadian congress, scheduled for Halifax, would not vote until Sept. 13 on selection of a delegate.

Mr. Shane will be in San Francisco with other members of the ILGWU executive board to attend the AFL convention. The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada executive council unanimously designated him as the fraternal delegate.

Council Calls Proposed Pay Rise For U. S. Workers an 'Evasion'

Chicago.—The 6.9 percent wage increase proposed by the Administration for government workers is "a complete evasion of the realities actually confronting employes," the AFL Executive Council charged.

The Council said that Congress should give immediate attention to the need for a substantial pay increase.

"The Executive Council asks Congress not to treat government workers as mere items on a cost sheet," the council said. "They are not to be regarded as a faceless mass whose legitimate needs and aspirations are to be cast aside without carefully weighing the merits of their requests."

Text of the statement follows:

The American Federation of Labor is convinced that Congress should give immediate attention to federal pay legislation. Bills to give government employes their first wage increase since 1949 have been pending before Congress since January.

The distortions and inequities in the present federal wage scale are obvious to anyone willing to face the facts. Employe representatives have presented strong evidence to support their case for a 17 percent increase. It has been demonstrated that a lesser amount will still leave earnings behind prices. The Executive Council believes the evidence clearly supports that conclusion.

Yet after five months of dilatory tactics, Administration spokesmen now suggest a 6.9 percent increase. The figure represents an "average" increase; some employes would actually receive less than 6 percent.

At the time this proposal was made to a Senate committee considering federal salary legislation, Administration spokesmen readily admitted that government pay has lagged behind prices. Comparing wage increases from August 1939 to March 1951 with the increase in cost of living for the same period, the Senate was advised that "to attempt to adjust this rise by a corresponding rise in scheduled rates would require a current average pay increase of about 21 percent." Despite this admission, a 6.9 percent increase was recommended.

This 6.9 percent proposal amounts to a complete evasion of the realities actually confronting employes.

At best the 1949 pay adjustment was a half-way measure. It fell far short of the government-approved standard for adjustments covering employes in private industry. Since 1949 the steepest price increases in our national history have taken place, and the end is in sight. Rising living prices are admittedly most damaging to fixed income groups.

Congress should reject ill-conceived attempts to whittle down the size of pay measures affecting federal personnel. Inadequate salaries have done more to demoralize government employes than any other factor. This demoralization is reflected in the wholesale exodus of trained and experienced workers, who are attracted to better paying jobs in private industry.

Waving a flag in front of inadequately paid employes will not stop this steadily turnover in trained personnel. A fair wage, which will assure a decent living standard, is the only answer.

The Executive Council asks Congress not to treat government workers as mere items on a cost sheet. They are not to be regarded as a faceless mass whose legitimate needs and aspirations are to be cast aside without carefully weighing the merits of their requests. Employes have a right to look upon Congress as the keeper of the national conscience in the protection and furtherance of laws affecting their wages and conditions of labor.

AFL Calls Drive To Drop Controls 'Dangerous Move'

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council regards the current drive for big business for the abolition of emergency economic controls "as a selfish and dangerous move."

The drive led by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States has gone so far that Chairman Burnet Maybank of the Senate Banking Committe warned that the Administration had better start thinking of a temporary extension or run the chance of not having any controls.

The present act, on which price and wage controls and the whole defense production mobilization is based, will expire on June 30. Committees headed by Senator Maybank and Rep. Brent Spence have been urged by cabinet members to strengthen the law.

The Executive Council said in a statement that Congress must strengthen price and rent controls. It said it would propose amendments to the Defense Production Act with "one central and indispensable keynote—that the defense program must be geared to the basic principle of equality of sacrifice."

Following is the text of the Council's statement:

The free world has been placed in a state of seige by Communist aggression. The war in Korea, first launched by the North Korean Communists and now taken over by the Chinese Reds, is obviously being waged with the support of Soviet Russia. The Soviet rulers would not dare to act without Russia's consent and collaboration. New aggressions in other sectors of the world may be anticipated whenever the leaders of the Kremlin decide the time is opportune. Under these circumstances, the danger of a third world war must be considered imminent.

To meet this threat, America has undertaken a vast defense program which has two major objectives—first, to stem the immediate tide of aggression, and, second, to rearm our country to a point of such overwhelming military power that Soviet Russia will not dare to precipitate a third world war.

Thus we face not only a national emergency, but a world emergency. The effect of the huge defense program upon our economy has not yet developed its full impact. It will be severe. More and more workers, more and more factories, will be taken out of civilian production and assigned to defense production. More and more of our young men will be drafted for military service and training. More and more of the limited supply of strategic materials will be diverted to defense needs and barred for civilian needs. Higher and still higher taxes will be required to pay the huge bills.

To talk at this time of terminating the national emergency and discarding emergency controls, is to indulge in wishful thinking. Under normal conditions, the American Federation of Labor would be the first to fight against government economic controls and to insist upon a free economy, unhampered by regimentation. But when our national security and the peace of the world are imperiled, all Americans must be ready to make sacrifices for the common good.

The Executive Council regards the current drive of big business for the abolition of emergency economic controls as a selfish and dangerous move.

Congress has considered amendments to the provisions of the Defense Production Act which expire on June 30. The Executive Council feels that Congress in fairness to the American people should strengthen rather than repeal the price control provisions of that law.

The kind of price control we have thus far experienced is largely a sham and a deception of the public. The new price ceilings, in many cases, have served to increase prices rather than hold them back. The cost of living keeps advancing at an alarming rate, despite the so-called controls. The only answer is a decision by Congress to fix precise, dollar-and-cents price ceilings, clear enough so that every housewife can understand them and simple enough to be enforced.

Congress should provide stronger enforcement machinery for price controls and should authorize regulation of speculative trading in the commodity exchanges.

It must be realized by now that over-all economic stabilization is impossible if prices are not effectively controlled and the cost of living kept on an even keel.

It should also be realized that rent controls must be strengthened and continued for the duration of the emergency, because rent constitutes a major item in the average family budget.

As for wage controls, the American Federation of Labor has accepted the inevitability of wage stabilization. We have done so despite the unchallengeable fact that price increases since Korea cannot be attributed to increased labor costs but resulted entirely from speculation, hoarding and profiteering. Through the operation of the new Wage Stabilization Board, the American Federation of Labor believes that fair wage policies can be adopted and administered, with enough flexibility to permit the correction of hardships and inequities to the nation's workers.

The American Federation of Labor will submit its specific proposals for the amendment of the Defense Production Act to the appropriate congressional committees within the near future. These amendments will have one central and indispensable keynote—that the defense program must be geared to the basic principle of equality of sacrifice.

Show Exhibits Worth $16 Million

Chicago.—Exhibits at the AFL Union Industries Show, Soldier Field, May 18-26, were valued at more than $16 million.

More than 3,000 workers were employed to man the huge labor-management exhibit.

ICFTU Opens July 4 Ends Bastille Day; AFL to Send 10

Chicago.—The AFL delegation of 10 will do its utmost "to have free labor become an ever-more decisive force on a world scale" during the second world congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The ICFTU will meet in Milan, Italy, opening on American Independence Day, July 4, and closing on French Bastille Day, July 14.

The Executive Council said in a statement:

On July 4, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, representing more than 50 million workers in 53 countries, will open its second World Congress. This historic gathering will be held in the great industrial center of Milan where Italian labor has dealt most telling blows to totalitarianism of every stripe—Fascist, Nazi and Communist.

At this grave hour in the international crisis brought on and continously aggravated by Russian aggression, it is significant that this powerful parliament of free world labor should open its deliberations on the day of the immortal American Declaration of Independence. It is of equally stirring import that these history-making sessions will close on July 14—Bastille Day—commemorating the glorious and triumphant assault on feudal tyranny by the people of France in 1789. These epochal landmarks in the history of the struggle against despotism and for human liberty are fitting dates for the second congress of the ICFTU. They symbolize the fervent determination of free labor organized under the banners of the ICFTU to remain free, to promote democracy and social justice, and to protect world peace.

The Executive Council has selected a strong delegation to represent its 8 million members at this great conference of world labor. Our delegation will do its utmost to have free labor become an ever-more decisive force on a world scale for the advancement of human freedom, well-being and enduring peace.

The AFL is pledged to do its all to have labor everywhere in the front ranks of the struggle against 20th century tyranny—the totalitarian menace. If the present international crisis is to be overcome and mankind is to be spared the irreparable catastrophe of another world total war, the free trade unions of the world will have to play the most constructive role in mobilizing the forces of freedom to resist and defeat aggression and to insure such social, economic and political conditions as will liberate mankind from the threat of hunger and dictatorship.

Towards this end, the AFL delegation is pledged to unity of action with the delegates representing the other sections of the bona fide trade union movement in the United States and Canada. Such creative American labor action will itself be a mighty force of inspiration and vital encouragement to the embattled liberty-loving workers on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

AFL Warns Housing Policies Peril Defense Program Unless Changed

Chicago.—The nation's entire defense production program may fail unless we provide adequate housing for workers in defense centers at rents they can afford to pay.

The AFL Executive Council warned that this can be done only if the housing policies in effect since the Korean war began are revised.

"Decent homes for American families are not a non-essential luxury," the Council said.

It called for allocation of sufficient materials to meet essential housing requirements, a new defense housing program to provide moderate rental homes for defense workers, sufficient appropriations to build 135,000 low rent public housing units a year, and modification of credit regulations to permit lower down payments on lower-priced houses.

Following is the text of the Council statement:

The American Federation of Labor is deeply disturbed by the failure of Congress to recognize the far-reaching effect new housing made urgent by the nation's defense emergency.

Decent homes for American families are not a non-essential luxury. A program which would assure the availability of decent homes for families now forced to crowd into makeshift shelters, unless they pay prices they cannot afford, should have a top priority in the mobilization effort.

Our entire defense production program may fail unless we can provide adequate housing for workers in defense centers at rents they can afford to pay. Yet Congress has done nothing to make sure that workers moving into defense centers will have even a roof over their heads, much less decent homes and adequate community facilities. A defense housing bill, extensively revised when introduced, has been further emasculated in the Senate and completely sidetracked in the House of Representatives. Unless legislation is enacted immediately providing for moderate rental housing in defense areas, it will be impossible to recruit workers needed in these areas for urgent defense jobs.

Low-income families now living in slums should receive consideration second only to defense workers in the nation's housing program. The AFL led the long fight, which was finally won in 1949, for the establishment of this low-rent public housing program. The 135,000 units per year contemplated in the Housing Act of 1949 is the very minimum that should be provided to meet the desperate need of low-income families now living in slums. The action of the House of Representatives, reducing the low-rent public housing program next year to 5,000 units for the entire nation, bluntly evidences a shocking lack of regard for families who are most in need of housing.

Credit controls should discourage expensive construction of luxury homes, and at the same time should keep moderately-priced housing within the financial reach of workers. The AFL warned when Regulation X, restricting housing credit, was being adopted that it would inevitably mean a shift toward the building of higher-priced housing which only well-to-do families could afford. The record since the adoption of Regulation X bears out this prediction. Latest data published by the Housing and Home Finance Agency shows that in recent months there has been a marked shift toward the building of higher priced houses.

The inequitable housing policies persisting after Korea must be reversed. Now, more than ever, our housing program must be geared to providing homes for families who have the greatest housing need. The nation's defense effort cannot be sustained and defense production goals cannot be met unless sufficient materials are allocated to assure the construction of essential housing.

The AFL urges the following measures to meet the nation's housing requirements during this critical period:

1. Allocation of sufficient materials to meet essential housing requirements.

2. A defense housing program which will provide moderate rental homes for defense workers. Wherever possible, these houses should be constructed by private builders, but where private builders cannot provide sufficient housing in defense centers, at a rent defense workers can afford to pay, the government must shoulder this responsibility.

3. Sufficient appropriations to permit the construction of 135,000 units per year under the low-rent public housing program authorized by Congress in the Housing Act of 1949.

4. Modification of Regulation X to permit lower down payments for lower-priced houses. We urge also immediate action by the Congress against the building of luxury houses.

Ask U. S. to Halt Russian Imports

Buffalo, N. Y.—A resolution urging immediate steps to combat the inflow of Russian-made products from Soviet satellite countries was unanimously adopted at the 24th Annual Convention of the AFL Union Label Trades Department of the State of New York.

Delegates to the convention—the largest in the department's history—pointed out that a number of American industries employing union labor are facing a desperate fight for survival as a result of imports produced under slave-labor conditions.

At the close of the convention, Acting Mayor Peter J. Crotty issued a proclamation setting aside the week of May 7 as Union Label Week in Buffalo.

James R. Ruehl, Buffalo, international representative of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, was elected for his 5th term as president and Harry Avrutin, secretary-treasurer of the Central Union Label Council of Greater New York, was re-elected for his second term as state secretary-treasurer.

The convention unanimously accepted the invitation of the Rochester Federation of Labor to hold the Silver Anniversary Convention in that city in 1952.

Your blood is needed NOW—go to your nearest Red Cross Blood Bank.

Political League Votes Start Now For 1952 Election of Liberals

Chicago.—The AFL campaign to help elect a liberal President and Congress in 1952 is on.

The administrative committee of the AFL Labor's League for Political Education voted an immediate address on an intensified registration drive to make sure that all of the voters moved around for national defense work will be qualified to cast a ballot.

Twenty of the 33 senators up for election next year are anti-Labor Taft-Hartleyites elected to the 80th Congress which passed the Taft-Hartley law.

The Political League's administrative committee, which met during the AFL Executive Council sessions, named Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Vice President David Dubinsky and Pattern Makers President George Q. Lynch a committee to "recommend ways and means of improving collection of voluntary contributions."

The committee issued the following statement:

Immediate start of an intensified registration drive for the 1952 elections was unanimously voted today by the Administrative Committee of Labor's League for Political Education.

It was emphasized at the meeting that, besides the Presidential race, 23 Senators and the entire membership of the House of Representatives are up for election next year. Of the 23 Senators, 20 are held to be unfriendly to labor. They were sent to the Senate in 1946, when the 80th Congress, which adopted the Taft-Hartley Act, was elected.

The Administrative Committee adopted resolutions designed to strengthen the financial structure of the LLPE and to assure that its educational activities will be broadened and made more effective. A Committee also was appointed to recommend ways and means to the League's next meeting in August of improving collection of voluntary contributions from members for the strictly political activities of the league.

Particularly in states which have early primaries, the Administrative Committee decided it was essential to start organizing registration drives as soon as possible.

"The greatest danger labor faces in 1952 is a falling off in registration," said a report approved by the Administrative Committee. "Workers are moving to take defense jobs. Many young men are going into the armed forces. The housing problem has resulted in many more changes of residence than take place in a normal year. The earlier the registration drive is started, the better off labor will be in the 1952 election."

In another report approved at the meeting, it was emphasized that political organization on a precinct, by-precinct level must be widened and strengthened in order to maintain closer personal contact with union members on political and economic issues. The need of expanding the circulation of the labor press, as a valuable medium for labor's political issues, also was noted. It was pointed out political opponents of labor are in a better position financially to use costly mediums of mass communication such as radio and television in campaigns.

With a full vote in 1952, the LLPE representatives expressed confidence that it will be possible to elect liberal majorities to Congress and more than offset the losses incurred in the 1950 congressional election.

Presidential candidates were not discussed at the meeting.

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